

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest Service Manti-La Sal National Forest

Supervisor's Office 599 West Price River Drive Price, UT 84501 Phone # (435) 637-2817 Fax # (435) 637-4940

File Code: 2820-4

Date: December 2, 2005

Ms. Mary Ann Wright
Associate Director
Utah Division of Oil, Gas and Mining
1594 West North Temple, Suite 1210
PO. Box 145801
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-5801

RE: North Lease Subsidence Mining, Canyon Fuel Company, LLC, Skyline Mine, C/007/0005, Task ID #1976

## Dear Ms. Wright:

By letters of October 23, 2002 and November 21, 2002, we provided consent to the operation and reclamation plan for proposed development within the Winter Quarters lease by Skyline Mine as required by 30 U.S.C. § 207(c). Consent to the plan for first mining was effective immediately. However, consent to the portion of the plan pertaining to full-extraction mining was made contingent on the provision of additional information and clarification that was identified in the letters.

As of October 31, 2005, we have received all of the additional information and clarifications requested in the 2002 consent letters. This information includes the Canyon Fuel Company response to Technical Analysis Letter #1976, dated May, 2005, the Cumulative Hydrologic Impact Assessment (latest revision, October 21, 2005), and the Technical Analysis (October 31, 2005). We were able to use these data in conjunction with the Skyline Mine Burnout Canyon Study to make a determination that full-extraction mining would be consistent with lease stipulation and the Manti-La Sal National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan. Therefore, the contingencies for consent to full-extraction mining set for in those letters have been met, and the consent granted in 2002 is now effective.

Please contact Dale Harber at (435) 636-3548 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

ALICE B. CARLTON Forest Supervisor

cc: Pete Rutledge, Office of Surface Mining